

From the Upper Chamber



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Report for Monday, February 13, 2006

The seventeenth day of the 2006 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Mark Taylor**.

Senator **Don Thomas** of the 54th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 531-539; Senate Resolutions 839, 844; and House Bills 644, 984, 1066, 1067 and 1137 were read for the first time and assigned to their respective Committees.

The Secretary read the reports of Standing Committees and the second reading of Bills and Resolutions.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** then recognized Sen. **David Shafer** of the 48th, who took the rostrum to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Jennifer Burger** of Atlanta.

The afternoon roll call was then taken.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** then recognized Sen. **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12th to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Meyer von Bremen** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Pastor **Donald Kea** of First United Methodist Church in Albany, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

The Secretary read SR 656, and Lt. Gov. **Taylor** recognized Sen. **Gloria Butler** of the 55th, who took the rostrum to present the resolution to Ms. **Xernona Clayton**. The resolution was adopted, and Sen. **Butler** introduced Ms. **Clayton**, who was honored for her achievements in civil rights and for her work in the creation of the Trumpet Awards.

The Secretary read SR 800, which honors the Georgia High School High Tech Student program. The resolution was adopted, and Sen. **Meyer von Bremen** took the rostrum to introduce two members of the high school high-tech program.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** recognized Sen. **Sam Zamarripa** of the 36th, who took the rostrum to introduce the Mongolian Ambassador to the U.S. **Ravdan Bold**.

The Secretary read SR 842, which recognizes the 4-H program in Georgia. The resolution was adopted, and Sen. **Joseph Carter** of the 13th took the rostrum to introduce members of the Georgia 4-H program to the Senate.

SR 825-837, 839-843, 845 and 846 were read and adopted.

Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33rd took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak to current legislation that concerns the compensation for court bailiffs.

Sen. **Thomas** of the 54th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to announce that today is Hepatitis Awareness Day at the Capitol.

Sen. **Bill Stephens** of the 27th moved to withdraw HB 294 from the Judiciary Committee and to recommit the bill to the Transportation Committee. There was no objection.

The Local Consent Calendar, consisting of HB 1186 and 1201, passed by a vote of 50-0.

The Secretary then read SB 442, which makes changes to the requirements in the reporting of child abuse.

Sen. **Dan Moody** of the 56th took the well to explain the bill, stating the law will strengthen Georgia's child abuse laws. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Thompson** of the 33rd

SB 442 passed by a vote of 52-0.

The Secretary read SB 441, which changes certain requirements for the standards of milk and milk products.

Sen. **John Bulloch** of the 11th took the well to present the bill, which changes certain date requirements for the pasteurization of milk and milk products.

SB 441 passed by a vote of 54-0.

The Secretary read SB 447, which would create the Georgia Blueberry Commission.

Sen. **Greg Goggans** of the 7th took the well to explain the bill, which also outlines the requirements for commission membership, appointment, election and other terms.

SB 447 passed by a vote of 53-1.

The Secretary read SB 381, which would provide state flags to be displayed on the caskets of all qualifying public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty.

Sen. **Seth Harp** of the 29th took the well to explain the bill, and an accompanying Amendment that makes a minor language change.

The Committee Amendment was adopted by a vote of 42-0.

SB 381 passed as amended by a vote of 52-0.

The Secretary read SB 453, which would require that two percent of all motor vehicle fuels purchased by local school districts be biodiesel fuels by the year 2010. Two Amendments to the bill were also read.

Sen. **Brian Kemp** of the 46th took the well to explain the bill, which states that the cost of the implementation of biodiesel fuels must not be more than 105 percent of the cost of conventional fuels. He also spoke to the Amendments to the bill, which would change the start date of the biodiesel program to 2008 and change other language in the bill. He yielded to questions from Senators **Thompson** of the 33rd, **Bulloch** and **Don Balfour** of the 9th.

Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th took the well in support of SB 453 and the Amendments to the bill.

A Floor Amendment to the Committee Amendment was adopted by a vote of 44-0.

The Committee Amendment as amended was adopted by a vote of 45-2.

An additional Floor Amendment was adopted by a vote of 44-0.

SB 453 passed as amended by a vote of 52-4.

The Secretary read SB 400, which concerns the use of all-terrain vehicles by law enforcement agencies.

Sen. **Ross Tolleson** of the 20th took the well to present the bill, which allows law enforcement agencies to purchase ATVs equip with "street packages." He yielded to questions from Sen. **Meyer von Bremen**.

SB 400 passed by a vote of 53-0.

The Secretary read House Resolution 1344, which concerns adjournment of the House and Senate. Majority Leader **Williams** took the well to speak to the upcoming Senate schedule. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steen Miles** of the 43rd. The adjournment resolution was then adopted.

Majority Leader **Williams** then moved the Senate stand adjourned until Tuesday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m.

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